

INFORMATION LETTER

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NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
Only

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DEFENSE COMMITTEE MEETS WITH OPM

Two-Day Session in Washington Considers Role of Industry in Emergency

The program of the first meeting of the Canned Fruit, Fish, and Vegetable Canning Defense Industry Advisory Committee, November 6 and 7, at the Office of Production Management, in Washington, dealt with the relation of industry matters to national defense.

John L. Baxter, of OPM, presided as the committee went into session to hear comments on the general defense program by William Knudsen, and remarks on "The Defense Program and the Canning Industry" by Douglas MacKeachie, director of the Division of Purchases; "Priorities" by A. C. Hill, Jr., executive officer of the Priorities Division; and "Conservation of Critical Materials" by Paul C. Cabot, deputy chief of the Bureau of Industrial Conservation.

The afternoon session on the first day was given over to round table discussions of priorities, led by Charles S. Smith, priorities specialist of the Food Supply Branch, and of conservation, led by E. W. Ely, chief of the simplification branch, Bureau of Industrial Conservation. William T. Hamm, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, led a discussion of the "Labor Supply for Growers and Cannerymen."

On the morning of November 7 committee members heard Fairfax Leary of the legal staff of OPM on the "Legal Limitations on the Scope of Operations of the Defense Industry Advisory Committee" and were told by Mr. Baxter what would be expected of them as a committee. Mr. Baxter also led in the discussions of methods for procurement of 1942 requirements of canned foods by Army, Navy, and Lend-lease agencies.

On the final afternoon Mr. Baxter introduced representatives of the Office of Price Administration, Surplus Marketing Administration, and the Office of Agricultural Defense Relations, who discussed problems in their respective fields.

The next meeting of the Committee probably will be held some time in December.

Treasury Department Submits New Tax Proposal

The Treasury Department on Wednesday and Thursday of the past week submitted to a conference of the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Finance Committee a new tax proposal to raise a reported total of \$4,800,000,000 through additional levies. At the time the INFORMATION LETTER went to press the details of this new tax program were not available. After the meeting on Thursday, Chairman Robert L. Doughton of the House Committee announced that action on the suggestion of the Treasury would be temporarily deferred.

The submission of revenue-raising proposals by the Treasury at this time leaves in considerable doubt the possibility of consideration and enactment during the remainder of this

session of a bill to correct administrative and technical features of the present excess-profits tax laws.

Although the House Banking and Currency Committee voted on November 1 to report a new price control bill patterned after the Administration measure that was introduced early in August, neither the bill nor the report had been made public as this is written. However, it is understood that the report was to have been filed in the House during the session on November 7. Committee Chairman Henry B. Steagall has stated that it is his intention to call the bill up for House consideration during the coming week.

Association Distributes New Labeling Bulletin

"Canned Food Labels That Meet Consumer Needs," a 36-page bulletin, prepared by Happer Payne of the Association staff, and authorized by the Labeling Committee, was mailed to all cannerymen this week and additional copies are going out to brokers, wholesale grocers, and others interested in the label question. The bulletin contains a resume of Federal laws and regulations controlling canned food labeling, a summary of the principles and philosophy of both grade and descriptive labeling, and discussion of both methods.

SHIPPING CASE SPECIFICATIONS MODIFIED

New Regulations Achieve Savings of Paperboard for Corrugated and Solid-fibre Containers

Modifications of regulations governing the shipping of freight in corrugated and solid fibre shipping containers, which are expected to save approximately 10 per cent of the paperboard used in that manner, have been put into effect on American railroads as a result of cooperation by the railroads with the Containers Branch of the Office of Production Management.

With the approval of Commissioner C. B. Aitchison of the Interstate Commerce Commission, an order modifying the container regulations has been issued by the Classification Simplification Committee of the Association of American Railroads.

The effect of the modification will be to provide for defense uses between 250,000 and 300,000 tons of paperboard per year without using any additional raw materials or supplies, states OPM. The Containers Branch believes this will enable the fibre box manufacturers to meet all present shipping container demands.

The new specifications were proposed by the Classification Simplification Committee of the Association of American Railroads after consultation with the Conservation Committee of the fibre box manufacturers. Hearings were held by the railroad committee in various sections of the country.

In substance, the new regulations save material by permitting the use of thinner and lighter materials in the manufacture of fibre shipping containers, according to an OPM statement.

The changes are all in the direction of relaxation of present requirements and will in no respect cause any increase in shippers' costs, according to the Classification Committee, which further states that they will not require the use of boards not now being manufactured, but will provide a great savings in materials, thus meeting the OPM objective.

According to the Classification Simplification Committee's explanation to ICC of the modifications, the following are among the principal changes they bring about in Rule 41 of the existing consolidated freight classification:

As to fibreboard boxes, the principal changes are reduction in the caliper of board used, both solid fibreboard and facings for double-faced corrugated board, and provision for larger boxes and for heavier weights than the present rule now provides.

For boxes the gross weight of which does not exceed 40 pounds the rule now provides for the use of solid fibreboard .060 inch thick, and facings .016 inch thick on double-faced corrugated board used in their manufacture. The modifications propose to reduce the caliper of the solid board to .055 inch, and the combined caliper of both facings on double-faced corrugated board from .032 inch to .028 inch. This will provide for the use of one facing .016 inch thick as at present, and one facing .012 inch, instead of .016 inch as at present required.

For boxes the gross weight of which is not over 65 pounds, it is proposed to reduce the caliper of solid fibreboard used in their manufacture from .080 inch to .070 inch. It is proposed to increase the dimensions of this box from 65 united inches to 75 united inches.

For boxes the gross weight of which do not exceed 90 pounds, solid fibreboard .090 inch thick is proposed instead of .100, and combined thickness of facings on double-wall corrugated board, .046 instead of .060, which will provide for the use of one facing .030 inch and one .016 inch, instead of two facings .030 inches each at present required. It is proposed to increase the dimensions of this box from 70 united inches to 90 united inches.

Special Trains to Exhibit Defense Needs

To make sure that no qualified manufacturer—no matter where he is—misses an opportunity to get a defense contract for lack of information, officers of the Army, Navy, Maritime Commission, and the Office of Production Management will tour the country beginning November 10 in three special exhibit trains—painted red, white and blue, OPM's Contract Division announces.

The specials will carry exhibits consisting of samples of defense equipment and parts needed by the services to give prospective defense manufacturers a clear idea as to the types of articles needed. They will be supplemented by blueprints and specifications. Itinerary of the exhibit trains will take them through principal canning areas.

FSCC Invites Canned White Potato Offers

Total Purchases of Peaches for Processing Reported—Agriculture's Weekly Record of Acquisitions

Another invitation to canners to submit offers for the sale of canned whole white potatoes was issued by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation on November 5. Offers may be for any quantity of No. 2 or No. 2½ size cans and are to be in the hands of the Corporation by November 14 for acceptance November 18. The announcement of this proposed purchase (FSC-295) contains specifications on color, count, size, defects, preparation, and texture and flavor.

During the past peach season FSCC and the Surplus Marketing Administration bought 1,287,351 bushels of fresh peaches along the Atlantic seaboard as a surplus removal program. Of this total 57,131 cases of No. 2½ and 201,000 cases of No. 10 size cans were packed and 36,307 barrels were processed in a sulphur dioxide solution for these agencies. Other canned peaches purchased pursuant to FSCC invitations make up the total of 426,826 that have been acquired since March 15, shown in the following table, which also presents the purchases of canned food items made by the Department of Agriculture through FSCC and SMA during the past week:

	Oct. 31–Nov. 7	Mar. 15–Nov. 7
	Cases	Cases
Fruits:		
Apples.....	126,600	136,600
Apricots.....		262,049
Grapefruit.....		398,418
Grapefruit juice.....		643,200
Orange juice.....	8,000	8,000
Peaches.....		426,826
Pears.....	286,632	1,004,800
Pineapple.....		5,000
Prunes.....		751,569
Vegetables:		
Bean, snap.....		9,866
Beets.....		14,500
Carrots.....		20,000
Peas.....		106,258
Potatoes.....		371,400
Tomatoes—		
Spots.....		2,093,129
Futures.....		2,679,040
Tomato paste.....		69,600
Tomato puree.....		43,000
Fish:		
Species not specified—		
Spots.....	80,065	1,672,680
Futures.....	220,750	2,206,450
Others:		
Chicken, boneless.....	*776,016	*2,155,704
Field Ration, type C.....		*1,119,996
Milk, evaporated.....	997,750	10,890,950
Pork.....	*10,240,292	*181,694,380
Pork and beans.....		2,401,298

* Pounds.

Army Continues Asking Bids for Negotiation

With several informal bids scheduled for opening during the next two weeks by the Quartermaster depots at Chicago and San Francisco, the Army is continuing its policy of inviting offers which are to be used as a basis for negotiating procurement of canned foods. Chili con carne, pork and beans, sardines, apricots, peaches, pears and berries, are among the commodities that will be procured in this fashion by these two stations.

Quantities of these, with can sizes and opening dates for the bids are as follows:

Pork and beans, with tomato sauce: 20,000 dozen No. 2½

cans and 5,500 No. 10's, with an alternate bid of 19,800 No. 2½'s; Chicago, November 13.

Chili con carne, without beans: 1,500 dozen 20-ounce cans; with beans: 5,000 dozen 20-ounce and 4,000 dozen 6-pound 8-ounce cans; Chicago, November 13.

Sardines: 21,000 No. ¼ cans and 54,335 1-pound oval cans, San Francisco, November 12 and 14; 24,000 No. ¼ and 4,500 1-pound oval cans, Chicago, November 12.

Blackberries: 2,979 dozen 10's and 5,210 dozen 2's, San Francisco, November 13 and 18; 134 dozen 2's and 1,250 dozen 10's with alternate bid on 6,626 dozen 2's, Chicago, November 12.

Blueberries: 556 dozen 10's and 1,250 dozen 2's, San Francisco, November 13 and 18; 162 dozen 2's and 164 dozen 10's with alternate bid of 862 dozen 2's, Chicago, November 12.

Loganberries: 460 dozen 10's and 140 dozen 2's, San Francisco, November 13 and 18; 60 dozen 10's with an alternate bid of 330 dozen 2's, Chicago, November 12.

Raspberries, (Red): 472 dozen 2's and 314 dozen 2's, San Francisco, November 13 and 18; 76 dozen 2's, Chicago, November 12. Black Raspberries: 277 dozen 10's and 108 dozen 2's, San Francisco, November 13 and 18; 46 dozen 10's, Chicago, November 12.

On November 19 San Francisco will open informal bids on 15,000 dozen No. 2½ cans of apricots, halves; 6,000 dozen 2½'s, peaches, halves; and 3,000 dozen 2½'s, pears, halves.

Navy Invites Canned Tomato and Peach Bids

The Bureau of Supplies and Accounts of the Navy Department has invited bids for opening November 25 on 3,778,000 pounds of canned tomatoes and 2,570,000 pounds of canned peaches for delivery at various Naval depots in the following quantities:

Tomatoes—Sewall's Point, Va., 1,000,000 pounds; San Diego, Calif., 580,000 pounds; San Francisco, Calif., 1,945,000 pounds; Puget Sound Navy Yard, Bremerton, Wash., 253,000 pounds.

Peaches—Sewall's Point, 1,800,000 pounds; San Diego, 100,000 pounds; San Francisco, 670,000 pounds.

With the exception of the lot of tomatoes for Puget Sound and the peaches for San Diego and San Francisco, the Navy reserves the right to make awards for the total quantities cited or for specified proportions of them, as shown on the bid-form.

Truck Crop Conditions Off in Some Sections

Growing conditions for truck crops in the south, southwest and on the Pacific Coast have been less favorable than usual, according to the November 5 report issued by the Department of Agriculture. Above-normal temperatures and torrential rains of mid-October have lowered the prospects for fall and early winter vegetables in many sections of Florida and Louisiana, the report states. In Texas, it continues, unfavorable moisture conditions and above-normal temperatures marked the late-October growing season.

Weather conditions since mid-October in the Pacific Coast States have been generally favorable but light frosts and cool weather in Washington and Oregon reduced production of many late-season crops there. The bulk of the West Coast vegetable movement will originate in the southern coastal, Salinas-Watsonville, and San Joaquin Valley sections of California, it is stated.

OPM EASES RESTRICTIONS ON COPPER

Also Issues Priorities Affecting Steel, Iron, and Materials for Farm Equipment

The Division of Priorities of the Office of Production Management this week eased its limitations of the use of copper, issued a preference repair and maintenance order for the iron and steel industry, and extended for another month the rating for materials needed to manufacture new farm machinery.

Restrictions on the use of copper, reported in the INFORMATION LETTER of October 25, were lessened somewhat by amendments to Conservation Order M-9-c. One amendment adds the following new paragraph to the general exceptions to the order: "For use for repair or replacement purposes in plants employing chemical processes and in plants processing food where the existing installation is copper or copper alloy and where and to the extent that chemical action makes the use of any other material impractical." Another exception is made for "insecticides and fungicides such as copper sulphates, oxides and basic copper compounds." This exception specifically removes these insect-destroying compounds from the restrictions of the order. The prohibition on air conditioning equipment is amended as follows: "except for essential food storage and transportation and industrial processing where the use of other material is impractical." The paragraph which prohibited the use of copper sheet, strip and screen in building construction after November 1 was revoked and these articles were placed on List A of the order, which curtails their manufacture until January 1, 1942, and prohibits their manufacture thereafter.

The Priorities Division also issued a preference repair and maintenance order for the iron and steel industry to enable continued operation of older and less efficient equipment that has been pressed into service during the emergency, and thus to maintain recent high production levels. Plants to which the priority assistance is extended include those engaged in production of pig iron, primary forms of steel, blast furnace coke, and ferroalloys. At the same time the Division announced that it is undertaking a nation-wide survey of the iron and steel industry. The survey will be made under supervision of OPM's compliance and field service section assisted by examiners of the Federal Trade Commission. It will gather facts as to how the companies are operating under priorities, and difficulties in following regulations or interpreting orders will be passed back to the Priorities Division. The inspection will cover about 230 companies.

Army and Navy officials having pointed out that increasing problems in connection with deliveries of structural steel and other metals needed for defense purposes no longer can be solved properly through the priorities system alone, the Supply Priorities and Allocations Board has requested OPM to develop an allocation system for steel. Substantial steps in that direction already have been taken in the handling of orders for steel plate and pig iron. "Extension of the policy throughout the industry means that distribution of steel gradually will be replaced by direct allocations, with emphasis on those types of steel most in demand for defense purposes," stated the SPAB release.

OPM also extended to November 30 the provisions of the Farm Machinery and Equipment Rating Plan which would

have expired on October 31. These assign the highest civilian preference rating to deliveries of materials to manufacturers needing them for production of new farm machinery. It was indicated that work is under way on a broader plan to make materials for this purpose available in order to carry out the Department of Agriculture's expanded 1942 food production program.

Alaska Salmon Pack Largest in Five Years

The 1941 pack of Alaska salmon, the largest since the peak year of 1936, was 6,865,463 standard (48 one-pound) cases, according to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This was more than one and three quarter million cases larger than the 1940 pack of 5,042,715 cases.

The following table shows the total pack by districts and species, shown in standard cases:

DISTRICT	Coho Cases	Chum Cases	Pink Cases	King Cases	Red Cases	Total Cases
Bristol Bay.....	1,827	49,332	.....	2,822	569,867	623,848
Alaska Peninsula:						
North side.....	.....	4,636	83	176	35,959	40,854
South side.....	17,298	163,058	230,541	3,006	97,695	511,600
Chignik.....	1,842	15,636	15,635	296	54,951	87,760
Kodiak.....	22,309	57,368	511,080	678	119,824	711,259
Cook Inlet.....	30,586	23,944	35,048	27,319	90,368	207,265
Prince Wm. Sound	4,703	73,637	213,812	90	6,981	299,229
Copper River.....	82,247	.....	.....	4,282	34,830	121,359
Yakutat.....	41,402	566	4,505	799	18,624	65,896
Icy Strait.....	10,331	17,418	218,163	232	8,948	254,992
Western.....	22,368	56,078	562,046	456	16,982	657,910
Eastern.....	9,210	64,880	601,161	113	9,079	684,443
Wrangell.....	35,343	33,687	633,163	10	28,709	730,812
South Prince of Wales Island.....	32,569	58,267	585,861	36	11,483	688,216
Southern.....	38,288	89,038	1,006,691	99	42,904	1,180,020
Totals.....	350,223	706,845	4,620,789	40,422	1,147,184	6,865,463

Association Participation in State Meetings

President Robert C. Paulus of the National Cannery Association will address the Wisconsin Cannery Association on "Industry Conditions and Outlook," at their annual meeting in Milwaukee, November 10 and 11. Other members of the Association personnel scheduled to appear on the Wisconsin program are Dr. E. J. Cameron, research director, who will speak on "The Role of the Laboratory in the Present Emergency"; Happer Payne, in charge of the Association's work on labels, on "Canned Foods Labels that Meet Consumers' Needs" and Miss Marjorie H. Black of the Home Economics Division, whose speech is entitled "The Relation of the Home Economics Division to Cannery and Consumers." Miss Black also will be guest speaker at the ladies luncheon and bridge party of the convention.

Messrs. Paulus and Payne are scheduled also to appear on the program of the Indiana Cannery Association, at Indianapolis, November 13 and 14, as is also Carlos Campbell, director of the Statistical Division. Mr. Campbell will speak on "Priorities."

Ozark Cannery to Meet November 14

The fall meeting of the Ozark Cannery Association will be held at the Colonial Hotel, Springfield, Mo., on November 14, according to an announcement by Assistant Secretary F. R. Spurgin.

Indexes of Employment and Prices

Prices of foods in retail stores continued to advance during the month ending September 16, 1941. Retail prices of all foods, taken as a group, increased 2.8 points between August 12 and September 16, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Fresh fruits and vegetables declined 4.2 points during this period while canned foods advanced 2.3 points. Compared with prices a year ago, the all food group is up 13.6 points, while for canned foods the increase is 10.6 points.

The wholesale price index of all commodities advanced 0.4 of a point during the week ending November 1 and is 13.1 points higher than a year ago. The wholesale index of all foods also advanced during the week ending November 1, the increase being 0.7 of a point, and is 17.4 points higher than in the corresponding week of 1940.

Indexes of employment and payrolls for all industries continued their steady advance from August to September, employment gaining 2.8 points while payrolls went up 5.2 points. Employment for September in the canning and preserving industry increased 47.8 points over August and it was 34.8 points higher than September of last year; canning payrolls increased 73.8 points over August this year and are higher by 163.4 points than September, 1940. The following table gives the index numbers for specified dates:

	RETAIL PRICES (1935-39=100)			
	Sept. 16, 1941	Aug. 12, 1941	July 15, 1941	Sept. 17, 1940
All foods.....	110.8	108.0	106.7	97.2
Fresh fruits and vegetables.....	99.6	103.8	100.3	89.4
Canned fruits and vegetables.....	102.5	100.2	97.9	91.9

	WHOLESALE PRICES (1926=100)					
	Nov. 1, 1941	Oct. 25, 1941	Oct. 18, 1941	Oct. 11, 1941	Sept. 27, 1941	Nov. 2, 1940
All commodities.....	91.6	91.2	91.7	91.6	91.2	78.5
All foods.....	88.2	87.5	88.4	89.2	87.6	70.8

	EMPLOYMENT (1923-25=100)			PAYROLLS (1923-25=100)		
	Sept., 1941	Aug., 1941	Sept., 1940	Sept., 1941	Aug., 1941	Sept., 1940
All industries.....	135.6	132.8	111.4	163.0	157.8	111.6
Canning and preserving.....	351.5	303.7	268.9	395.1	321.3	231.7

Handbook Details Defense Agency Functions

The Office for Emergency Management has announced publication of a 72-page handbook detailing the functions and administration of the various defense agencies within or associated with the OEM.

Designed for general reference, the handbook briefly outlines the development of the defense agencies, explains the authority under which each agency was created, describes its functions, and lists its staff. It also contains charts showing the entire national defense organization as well as the organization of the Office of Production Management, the Office of Price Administration, and the Office of Civilian Defense. Copies may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., for 10 cents each.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF CANNED FOODS

Statistics on foreign trade in canned foods during August and the 1941 period ending in August show further changes due to war conditions. In the August export trade, shipments of meat products, tomatoes, baked beans, milk, and fish (except salmon and

shell fish) were outstanding. Among imports there were larger receipts of canned beef and of dutiable pineapple. The following table was compiled from figures of the Department of Commerce giving details of exports and imports for comparable periods:

EXPORTS	August, 1940		August, 1941		Jan.-August, 1940		Jan.-August, 1941	
	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value
Meats, total.....	528,399	\$126,927	17,010,088	\$4,661,840	8,584,199	\$2,274,507	56,166,007	\$15,129,871
Beef, corned, etc.....	39,664	8,569	2,122,798	582,600	251,879	53,005	5,245,986	1,436,149
Other beef.....	13,534	3,077	46,440	16,875	359,044	112,467	763,996	217,909
Pork.....	237,973	66,750	2,598,990	754,507	5,609,634	1,571,761	6,309,364	1,868,946
Sausage.....	114,828	28,462	711,401	211,013	898,814	246,342	4,816,088	1,299,269
Other meat.....	122,400	20,069	11,530,459	3,096,845	1,464,826	290,932	39,030,573	10,307,298
Vegetables, total.....	2,760,367	240,657	20,899,851	1,250,208	65,001,537	3,730,562	80,497,240	4,812,108
Asparagus.....	342,459	58,556	660,347	127,733	3,461,227	524,588	2,036,983	308,361
Beans, baked and with pork.....	142,569	7,293	1,908,904	91,192	30,298,479	1,243,202	5,379,326	275,571
Corn.....	117,005	8,798	113,194	8,148	1,159,937	80,122	1,244,407	88,715
Peas.....	554,881	46,977	555,608	51,455	2,776,221	216,492	3,573,702	276,943
Soups.....	423,844	38,558	649,950	53,454	5,910,090	427,990	3,176,766	283,810
Tomatoes.....	144,085	7,386	1,308,233	674,677	9,937,850	460,078	54,582,098	2,740,236
Tomato paste and puree.....	418,561	23,284	407,570	27,710	6,063,764	349,563	2,200,439	132,862
Tomato juice.....	131,727	8,148	231,946	21,046	1,297,923	82,470	1,789,271	115,248
Other vegetables.....	484,636	41,657	3,289,099	194,793	4,096,046	346,057	6,514,248	510,362
Condensed milk.....	3,368,406	373,849	8,865,483	1,045,573	10,955,566	1,194,158	52,315,226	6,180,479
Evaporated milk.....	52,063,962	3,245,430	40,686,983	2,934,186	87,690,451	5,582,073	191,444,917	14,090,299
Fish:								
Salmon.....	7,547,654	1,446,907	253,004	47,788	40,766,012	7,344,321	14,006,587	2,298,673
Sardines.....	1,868,893	130,524	4,225,062	314,557	48,300,964	3,501,940	40,384,300	2,789,403
Other fish.....	222,409	19,350	1,514,132	184,084	2,340,002	225,629	16,473,517	1,185,014
Shell-fish:								
Shrimp.....	125,622	17,994	38,502	9,913	1,455,873	231,634	531,365	100,162
Other shell-fish.....	34,781	6,906	125,518	25,214	500,036	83,843	602,169	108,775
Fruits, total.....	1,238,285	103,822	2,339,523	217,404	117,889,946	8,655,732	9,939,073	882,688
Grapes.....			67,078	3,710			204,575	15,717
Grapefruit.....	29,768	2,130	14,374	977	39,087,335	2,561,839	340,460	20,898
Loganberries.....	2,000	270	629	87	354,358	27,291	15,483	1,578
Other berries.....	28,190	4,030	87,108	12,448	263,265	34,627	306,908	38,978
Apples and sauce.....	60,287	3,197	72,338	4,998	2,141,240	96,253	458,361	28,686
Apricots.....	57,530	5,083	133,759	11,437	5,619,702	405,152	419,774	39,042
Cherries.....	79,753	7,250	79,313	11,284	590,243	62,028	409,125	61,507
Prunes.....	55,701	5,898	235,931	18,208	5,623,905	380,403	546,799	40,337
Peaches.....	201,143	13,930	699,209	58,759	27,346,548	1,807,350	2,572,039	197,028
Pears.....	69,668	6,708	277,287	24,657	14,160,403	1,157,717	1,421,910	123,662
Pineapple.....	285,333	20,496	156,400	14,331	6,021,535	499,156	827,383	67,266
Fruit salad and cocktail.....	184,796	17,896	428,381	48,905	14,290,947	1,518,314	1,777,714	191,997
Other fruits.....	184,026	16,934	87,716	7,603	1,790,465	155,593	578,482	55,992
Fruit juices (in gallons):								
Pineapple.....	101,094	48,352	38,098	25,093	514,617	255,026	186,332	107,734
Grapefruit.....	41,085	18,956	185,162	54,242	1,844,705	621,126	2,107,418	614,406
Orange.....	33,114	16,345	88,922	50,992	289,598	160,828	295,685	198,426
Other fruit juices.....	46,915	37,650	16,444	8,802	467,646	317,347	72,894	50,239
IMPORTS								
Meat:								
Beef.....	4,040,002	460,772	8,936,434	1,084,590	46,785,193	5,341,928	52,199,384	5,830,161
Other meats.....	832	411	1,147	455	51,125	15,617	23,684	6,735
Milk: condensed and evaporated....	193	15	484	46	2,756	263	2,791	285
Fish:								
Packed in oil—								
Sardines.....	1,040,875	179,564	135,847	34,660	9,309,652	1,459,669	4,924,571	1,011,296
Anchovies.....	228,309	77,932	96,259	41,922	2,153,691	720,194	1,628,583	569,719
Tuna.....	684,270	119,764	13,650	3,083	5,561,734	887,432	2,717,985	532,256
Other fish in oil.....	28,210	4,872	14,356	3,368	401,062	103,126	275,574	74,190
Other fish not in oil.....	29,073	4,060	197,470	28,314	4,281,470	480,078	2,033,974	287,853
Caviar and other roe.....	10,342	16,386	31,373	13,411	114,692	81,776	63,731	59,784
Shellfish—								
Crab meat and sauce.....	680,211	185,372	87,205	27,965	10,786,574	3,273,846	5,095,783	1,577,790
Clams and oysters.....	18,836	3,763	42,440	5,212	390,001	81,237	413,285	90,424
Lobsters.....	209,840	96,615	100,622	89,789	1,067,907	382,760	1,378,890	580,439
Other shellfish.....	391,592	25,399	1,112,363	104,012	9,953,404	728,077	8,646,139	660,076
Vegetables:								
Peas.....	206	10			127,680	8,326	3,009	205
Pimientos.....	12	5			83,262	9,617	15	3
Mushrooms.....	2,560	682			371,139	87,519	34,502	10,307
Tomatoes.....	445,781	21,354			17,460,404	832,505	353,489	17,341
Tomato paste and sauce.....					3,554,880	312,428	6,000	789
Other vegetables.....	10,635	731			179,464	10,782	30,358	1,710
Fruit:								
Pineapple, dutiable.....	2,772,331	106,558	3,065,308	203,628	12,583,900	642,079	21,250,521	1,058,943
Pineapple, free (Philippines).....	6,829,978	408,459	4,242,935	258,371	28,756,951	1,550,276	12,154,143	625,369
Mandarin oranges.....			960	63				

RAW PRODUCTS RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Florida Experiment Station and Research Service Research Presented in Reports

A widely diverse and decentralized program of research has been necessary at the Florida Experiment Station, due to the complicated soil and climatic conditions in that State. These, to a large degree, have made impractical the adoption of the common varietal, management and cropping systems and practices of other regions. The station's organization, consequently, has been designed to meet statewide, regional and local problems affecting all phases of plant and animal production. At present it consists of eight specialized departments in the main station, four branch stations and eight field laboratories. The branch stations carry a broad research program dealing with the type of agriculture of the region in which each is situated while the field laboratories are restricted to specific functions within an area and generally are not considered as permanently established.

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For example, research has shown the association between low fertilizer efficiency and excessive soil acidity. Soil sampling and testing are, therefore, primary steps in the Extension program for citrus improvement. During the year, 6,200 soil samples were taken from 3,460 citrus groves, aggregating 39,896 acres. Based on these soil tests, individual advice was given growers in regard to liming and fertilizer practices. The summarized results from several counties show a reduction of fertilizer cost of 13 per cent, increase in yield of 24 per cent, and reduction in production cost per box of 20 per cent.

Other phases of the grove-improvement program relate to cover crops and cultivation, advancement of irrigation, and disease and insect control.

Production records of the Extension Service, covering a period of five years, show a 20 per cent average increase in the yield of irrigated groves over non-irrigated. The average cost of irrigation per acre was \$5.68. The irrigation cost per box was 3.2 cents. The total cost of production was 7 cents per box less on the irrigated groves, and the returns per box were 15 per cent higher.

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A series of backcrosses between white-podded selections and the well-known variety Brittle Wax led to the new white-podded bean named Duluth. It is a snap bean resembling Brittle Wax in general, but has a pod length approximately one inch shorter and the pods are not as round in cross section as are the pods of Brittle Wax.

Of seven bean varieties tested for one season, Giant Stringless Greenpod was most productive. Varieties producing the largest total yield were, in general, the same as those producing the largest yields at the first harvest.

A new bush type of cucumber of determinate growth habit also has been developed at the Minnesota station and introduced as the "Midget." Some data are also given comparing yields of standard varieties at standard planting distances to those of the "Midget" at several different planting distances.

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QUARTERLY STOCKS REPORT

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Stocks of canned peaches and pears in the hands of both canners and distributors on October 1, 1941, were larger than a year earlier, while a downward trend in stocks of canned salmon continued, according to the canned food quarterly stocks report prepared by the Bureau of the Census in cooperation with the National Canners Association and the Association of Pacific Fisheries.

The following table summarizes trends in canners' and distributors' stocks of certain selected canned foods:

Commodity	Canners' stocks change Oct. 1, 1941 from Oct. 1, 1940		Distributors' stocks change Oct. 1, 1941 from Oct. 1, 1940	
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
Vegetables:				
Peas.....	-10	+49	+1	
Corn.....	+30	+55	-12	
Tomatoes.....	*	+12	+6	
Beans.....	*	+70	-4	
Fruits:				
Peaches.....	+16	+92	+42	
Pears.....	+1	+11	+39	
Salmon:.....				
Alaska Reds.....	-9	-6	-12	
Pinks.....	-69	-11	-41	
Other.....	+61	+8	+26	
	-46	-27	-25	

*New pack not completed.

*Unsold stocks.

Peaches and Pears.—In contrast to the developments in preceding quarters, stocks of canned peaches moved upward compared with a year ago. Canners' stocks were 16 per cent above a year ago, this quarter being the first in the past three years that stocks have exceeded those of the identical date of the preceding year. This gain is accompanied by an expansion in distributors' holdings. Distributors' stocks of peaches on October 1 were reported 42 per cent above a year ago, while on July 1 inventories of this item were at 1940 levels. Canners' stocks of pears on October 1 were about equal to those of a year ago. During the 1940-41 season stocks had run double those of the previous season. The spread of 39 per cent over October 1, 1940 for distributors' stocks of pears is similar to that recorded three months earlier.

Stocks of peaches and pears in the hands of representative distributors and canners on October 1 and July 1, 1941, and on October 1, 1940, together with percentage changes, are shown in cases, all sizes, in the following table, prepared by the Bureau of the Census:

Commodity	Oct. 1, 1941		July 1, 1941		Oct. 1, 1940		Change Oct. 1, 1941, from—	
	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Per cent	Per cent
DISTRIBUTORS:								
Peaches.....	990,424	515,050	669,490	+92	+42			
Pears.....	286,426	238,008	206,762	+11	+39			
CANNERS:								
Peaches.....	6,079,599	285,094	5,242,410	+2032	+16			
Pears.....	2,642,748	532,651	2,623,569	+396	+1			

Salmon, Tuna, and Sardines.—Downward trends are shown for distributors' holdings of salmon and unsold stocks in packers' hands, decreases in stocks of Alaska Reds being partially offset by increases in the number of cases of Pinks. The net decreases from a year ago were very similar, nine per cent for packers and 12 per cent for intermediary warehouses. The fluctuations among the varieties, however,

were more marked for unsold stocks of canners—a 69 per cent decrease in Alaska Reds and a 61 per cent increase in Pinks. Distributors' stocks of Alaska Reds were down 41 per cent while Pinks were 26 per cent above October 1, 1940. That canners' unsold stocks are lower this year in face of a larger pack than in 1940 is a measure of the increase in demand for salmon.

Distributors' holdings of other canned fish covered by this report indicated divergent trends. Stocks of tuna were down one-third from July 1 and were equal to only one-half of those a year ago. While stocks of imported sardines have diminished sharply since the beginning of the war, distributors continue well stocked with domestic varieties. Stocks of Maine sardines were reported double those a year ago, while those of California varieties were up one-tenth.

The following table presents statistics of representative distributors' stocks of canned salmon, tuna, and sardines. Compiled by the Bureau of the Census, the figures are based on reports from the same firms for each date:

Commodity	Oct. 1, 1941		July 1, 1941		Oct. 1, 1940		Change Oct. 1, 1941, from—	
	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Per cent	Per cent
Salmon, total.....	261,890	277,312	296,797	-6	-12			
Reds.....	71,727	80,933	121,332	-11	-41			
Pinks.....	144,358	133,825	114,369	+8	+26			
Other.....	45,805	62,554	61,096	-27	-25			
Tuna.....	69,761	103,821	140,927	-33	-50			
Sardines, total.....	169,306	147,349	136,554	+15	+24			
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Representative data on canners' inventories of stocks of unsold salmon, compiled by the Association of Pacific Fisheries, are shown in the following table. The figures represent the combined reports of companies accounting for 99 per cent of the total pack, in cases, all sizes.

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Following unusually low stocks earlier in 1941, canners' stocks of canned corn exceeded 20 million cases, all sizes combined, on October 1, and were 30 per cent greater than on the same date a year ago. Distributors' stocks again were below the corresponding date of 1940, but less sharply than on July 1 of this year. Canners' stocks of peas were down one-tenth from a year ago, while distributors' inventories were about equal to those on October 1, 1940.

Canned tomatoes in distributors' hands increased six per cent compared with the same date of last year. Data on canners' stocks of tomatoes are not available as of October 1. Because the pack of green and wax beans has continued later than usual this year, stocks in canners' hands as of October 1 are no indication of available supply and therefore are not published.

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Corn.....	+30	+55	-12	
Tomatoes.....	"	+12	+6	
Beans.....	"	+70	-4	
Fruits:				
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Other.....	272,742	31,400	506,842	111,190				
Total.....	1,470,033	65,727	1,624,243	750,835				

Following unusually low stocks earlier in 1941, canners' stocks of canned corn exceeded 20 million cases, all sizes combined, on October 1, and were 30 per cent greater than on the same date a year ago. Distributors' stocks again were below the corresponding date of 1940, but less sharply than on July 1 of this year. Canners' stocks of peas were down one-tenth from a year ago, while distributors' inventories were about equal to those on October 1, 1940.

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based on reports from the same firms for each date. The second, covering total canners' stocks of the same commodities, was compiled by the Association's Division of Statistics.

Commodity	Oct. 1, 1941	July 1, 1941	Oct. 1, 1940
DISTRIBUTORS:	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Cases</i>
Peas.....	1,348,567	903,663	1,332,156
Corn.....	1,050,839	675,962	1,196,979
Tomatoes.....	1,000,712	903,239	952,773
Green and wax beans.....	526,918	309,612	547,945
CANNERS:			
Peas.....	15,293,849	11,101,735	17,086,917
Corn.....	20,096,583	450,247	15,439,968
Tomatoes.....	^a	2,323,936	^b
Green and wax beans.....	^a	108,877	4,889,000

^aOld stocks only.

^bNew pack not completed.

Fruit and Vegetable Market Competition

Carlot Shipments as Reported to the Agricultural Marketing Service by Common Carriers

Supplies of snap and lima beans and green peas on the fresh market for the week ending November 1, 1941 were smaller than for the corresponding week in 1940, but supplies of tomatoes and spinach were larger, according to the Agricultural Marketing Service, as evidenced by carlot shipments.

Supplies of citrus fruits also were larger for the week ending November 1 this year than for the same period last year.

The following table, compiled from statistics of AMS, gives detailed comparisons of carlot shipments on certain dates of selected vegetables and fruits:

VEGETABLES	Week ending—			Season total to—	
	Nov. 1, 1940	Nov. 1, 1941	Oct. 25, 1941	Nov. 1, 1940	Nov. 1, 1941
Beans, snap and lima.....	270	43	31	4,873	3,999
Tomatoes.....	310	387	318	20,930	18,500
Green peas.....	103	85	59	5,956	5,535
Spinach.....	0	2	5	5,952	5,397
Others:					
Domestic, competing directly.....	545	700	830	37,140	38,178
Imports competing indirectly.....	97	143	110	538	882
FRUITS					
Citrus, domestic.....	1,751	1,805	2,111	62,600	70,132
Imports.....	0	0	3	59	59
Others, domestic.....	288	392	2,312	13,617	12,667

Food and Drug, Labor, Request More Funds

The Food and Drug Administration of the Federal Security Agency and the Division of Public Contracts of the Labor Department have requested supplemental appropriations of \$15,900 and \$116,000 for their respective activities during the remainder of the fiscal year. The \$15,900 requested of Congress by the Food and Drug Administration is for the purpose of employing additional hearing officers to "handle the increasing number of hearings required to be heard under the terms of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act."

The Division of Public Contracts, in requesting an additional appropriation of \$116,000, states that its staff "is entirely inadequate because of the increasing volume of Government contracts for supplies necessary in the national defense program. In order to make required inspections and perform related duties, additional inspectors and clerical employees are immediately required."

Unsold Stocks of Canned Salmon

Unsold stocks of canned salmon on October 31, 1941, amounted to 1,157,576 actual cases, as compared with 1,324,432 cases on October 31, 1940, and 1,470,033 cases on September 30, 1941, according to statistics compiled by the Association of Pacific Fisheries.

The 1941 figures in the table below are based on reports from 87 companies, and the 1940 figures on reports from 80 companies. Both in 1940 and 1941 the pack of some individual companies and the total pack was not yet definitely known, as some packing was still going on in certain localities. The following table presents details on unsold stocks:

Grades or varieties	Tails (1 lb.)	Flats (1 lb.)	Halves (8 doz.)	Total Oct. 31, 1941	Total Oct. 31, 1940
	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Cases</i>
Chinooks or Kings:					
Fancy Red.....	972	3,089	33,376	37,437	63,465
Standard.....	3,554	4,943	37,190	45,687	27,030
Pale.....	10,720	3,305	8,532	22,557	9,455
White.....	3,615	43	2,944	6,602	3,493
Puget Sound Sockeyes.....	1,045	8,507	37,679	47,231	43,079
Alaska Reds.....	92,520	7,505	2,207	102,232	337,371
Cohos, Silvers, Medium					
Reds.....		468	5,726	6,194	226,183
Pinks.....	741,528	179	4,911	746,618	535,547
Chums.....	127,975		3,099	131,074	69,064
Bluebacks.....			6,877	6,877	575
Steelheads.....			5,067	5,067	9,170
Total.....	981,929	28,039	147,608	1,157,576	1,324,432

*This does not include Coho tails.

Favorable Report on California Fall Spinach

A survey of the fall spinach acreage for canning in California just released by the California Cooperative Crop Reporting Service shows the contracted acreage for 1941 at 5,514 acres. This compares with 1,048 acres harvested in 1940. The crop is reported in excellent condition. Harvest has started in some areas, and canners are expecting yields ranging from two to five tons per acre.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Defense committee meets with OPM.....	6737
Treasury Department submits new tax proposal.....	6737
Association distributes new labeling bulletin.....	6737
Shipping case specifications modified.....	6737
Special trains to exhibit defense needs.....	6738
FSCC invites canned white potato offers.....	6738
Army continues asking bids for negotiation.....	6738
Navy invites canned tomato and peach bids.....	6739
Truck crop conditions off in some sections.....	6739
OPM eases restrictions on copper.....	6739
Alaska salmon pack largest in five years.....	6740
Association participation in State meetings.....	6740
Ozark canners to meet November 14.....	6740
Indexes of employment and prices.....	6740
Handbook details defense agency functions.....	6740
Exports and imports of canned foods.....	6741
Raw products research activities.....	6742
Quarterly stocks report.....	6743
Fruit and vegetable market competition.....	6744
Food and Drug, Labor, request more funds.....	6744
Unsold stocks of canned salmon.....	6744
Favorable report on California fall spinach.....	6744